

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 1: 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

The invention relates to a method for examining blood vessels, in particular of the eye and more particularly of the retina, in accordance with the features cited in the preamble to patent claim 1. The invention furthermore relates to an apparatus for performing the method.

Page 3: 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

This object with With respect to the method, this object is achieved in accordance with the features cited in patent claim 1 by laser Doppler scanning a blood vessel thereby to determine exterior diameter thereof and interior diameter thereof and, from the foregoing, wall thickness of the blood vessel, i.e., vascular wall thickness. With regard to the method [sic] apparatus, the object is achieved in accordance with the features cited in patent claim 5 by the apparatus's comprising a laser Doppler scanner for producing a first image or a

F-8245

first set of data corresponding to exterior diameter of the vessel and a second image or a second set of data corresponding to interior diameter of the vessel and an evaluation unit for determining vascular wall thickness of the vessel from the first and second images or sets of data.